

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. 5598



Introduced by Representative ESTRELLITA "GING" B. SUANSING

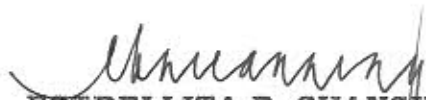
EXPLANATORY NOTE

Over the years, thefts of government properties have become rampant, especially since many items, such as railroad and sidewalk railings, manhole covers, and signposts and signage are deemed profitable.

These government properties are placed in their respective locations because the government trusts that the public will not steal them. Theft of these properties, among others, abuses the trust of the government given to the public.

In order to discourage this kind of thievery, this bill seeks to amend Article 310 in Act No. 3815, as amended, otherwise known as the Revised Penal Code, to classify theft of government property as qualified theft, thereby imposing higher penalties against the perpetrators.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


ESTRELLITA B. SUANSING
1st District, Nueva Ecija

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **5598**

Introduced by Representative ESTRELLITA "GING" B. SUANSING

AN ACT
AMENDING ACT NO. 3815, AS AMENDED, ALSO KNOWN AS THE
REVISED PENAL CODE, ARTICLE 310 ON QUALIFIED THEFT

Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Article 310 of Act No. 3815, as amended, also known as the Revised Penal Code, is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Article 310. *Qualified Theft.* – The crime of theft shall be punished by the penalties next higher in degree than those respectively specified in the next preceding article, if committed by a domestic servant, or with grave abuse of confidence, or if the property stolen is large cattle or consists of coconuts, or fish taken from a fishpond or fishery.

THE PENALTY OF PRISION CORRECCIONAL, IN ITS MEDIUM AND MAXIMUM PERIODS, AND A FINE OF NOT LESS THAN TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P25,000.00) BUT NOT EXCEEDING ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (P100,000.00) SHALL BE IMPOSED IF THE PROPERTY STOLEN BE ANY PROPERTY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PHILIPPINES.”

SECTION 2. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 3. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,